

From: National Council for Behavioral Health

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Subject: BHive: New MHFA Legislation, Suicide Prevention App, Customer Service for Success, and much more...

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NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
STATE ASSOCIATIONS OF ADDICTION SERVICES



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Mental Health First Aid Gives You the Skills to Help Someone in Need



Last week, in continuation of long-standing support for Mental Health First Aid, a bipartisan coalition of Senators introduced a new bill to fund Mental Health First Aid at \$20 million. [Mental Health First Aid USA](#) is an interactive training program that has certified more than 336,000 people around the U.S. to recognize and help someone showing symptoms of a mental health or substance use problem. Read more about this and other exciting public policy developments on the [Capitol Connector](#) blog.



New Suicide Prevention Mobile App

SAMHSA's new app — [Suicide Safe](#) — is now available for free on [Apple's iOS](#) and [Android](#) mobile devices. Based on the [Suicide Assessment Five-Step Evaluation and Triage \(SAFE-T\)](#) approach, the app is designed to help primary care and behavioral health providers more fully integrate suicide prevention strategies into their practices. [Click here](#) to try it out.

Working Hard for the Money

Mental Health First Aid. SAMHSA announced the second phase of the [Project Aware Mental Health First Aid grant initiative: Now Is the Time Project AWARE-Community Grants](#). These funds will



HALL OF HONOR



Congratulations to 2015 Inspiring Hope winners Dr. Scott Zeller, winner of the "Doc of the Year" award, and **Marcia Gonzalez Monroe**, winner of the "Mental Health Professional of the Year." [Join us](#) on April 21 in Orlando to celebrate these honorees and their work improving the lives of those living with mental illnesses and addictions. [Buy your ticket now for the 2015 Celebration of Excellence.](#)



AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT



Credible Behavioral Health Software provides secure, proven, easy-to-use software for clinic, community, residential and mobile care providers. Credible's CCHIT Complete EHR-Certified software provides a fully integrated clinical, scheduling, billing, form management, Surescripts certified e-prescribing, eLabs, and more. A leading SaaS provider for 11 years, Credible is committed to continuous innovation, an easy-to-use interface, and a long-term partnership approach.

eHana's software is designed to give you the flexibility to adapt in a changing environment. eHana will help your agency do more of what it's good at:



support opportunities to build upon local Mental Health First Aid initiatives and develop new partnerships.

Applications are due May 1.

JUSTICE. The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance is accepting applications for its **Second Chance Act Reentry Program for Adults with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Disorders**. This program is designed to improve outcomes for adults with co-occurring addictions and mental illnesses while incarcerated and after release. **Read more and apply by March 31.**

HIV/AIDS. SAMHSA is accepting applications for **Targeted Capacity Expansion: Substance Use Disorder Treatment for Racial/Ethnic Minority Populations at High-Risk for HIV/AIDS** grants. The program aims to expand addiction treatment, behavioral health and HIV services for high-risk populations. **Learn more and apply by May 14.**

Provide quality services, closely monitor client progress, and make effective management decisions. eHana has been producing cutting-edge information systems for human service and behavioral health organizations since 2000.

Aetna is one of the nation's leading diversified health care benefits companies, serving approximately 37.3 million people with information and resources to help them make better informed decisions about their health. Aetna offers a broad range of traditional, voluntary and consumer-directed health insurance products and related services, including medical, pharmacy, dental, behavioral health, group life and disability plans, Medicaid health care management services and health information technology services.



Happenings Around the Hive

With a vision of making Trenton the healthiest city in New Jersey, the National Council has partnered with Trenton Health Team — a coalition of local hospitals and the Trenton health department — to infuse trauma-informed approaches throughout the community. Through support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, health care providers, emergency responders and local educators will be trained to more effectively support individuals who are coping with the lasting adverse health effects stemming from childhood trauma. **Read more.**

A focus on excellent customer services is paramount to supporting recovery. But what does it actually mean to be the Amazon Prime of customer service in a post-health care reform era? Find out in David Lloyd's new blog post, "**The Customer is Always Right: Customer Service for Survival.**" And while you're at it, register for our March 18 webinar, "**Disney and Ritz Carlton Customer Service Tailored for Your Organization.**"

Read about why people take their own lives, managing changes in the workplace and a young professional's experience in the National Council Conference's Young Leaders Program — the latest from **Conference 365.**

From the member listserv: Implementing and staffing your evidence-based crisis team — did you know the National Council provides in-depth consultation services to help you improve crisis team workflow, implement evidence-based practices, use data, mobile teams, and crisis stabilization. **Send us a note** — we're happy to help.

During the National Council's monthly brown bag lunch for staff, a local member agency — Pathways to Housing DC — stopped by for a visit. Executive Director Christy Respress and others **shared** information about Pathway's highly successful housing-first model.



WHERE IN THE WORLD?



Congratulations Larry! Larry Fricks will attend **ACMHA: The College for Behavioral Health Leadership Summit** in St. Louis on March 25 where he will be

awarded with the prestigious 2015 Timothy J. Coakley Behavioral Health Leadership Award.



Cheryl Sharp is in Oregon this week completing two back-to-back WRAP trainings.



Joan King heads to Chicago today through March 19 to work with provider organizations, the Behavioral Health Policy Collaborative, and the State of Illinois' Division of Mental Health on a project to enhance integrated behavioral health and primary care to move people with serious mental illness and complex, co-morbid physical health issues from nursing homes into the community.



Mohini Venkatesh and **Kirsten Reed** head down south to San Antonio on March 23 for the three-day kick off of the **2015 Executive Leadership Program.**



Nina Marshall is going north to Portland, Maine on March 26 to facilitate **Sweetser's** board retreat.

And finally — happy Saint Patrick's Day!



Upcoming Webinars

Disney and Ritz Carlton Customer Service Tailored for Your Organization — March 18, 2-3pm EDT, **National Council**

Bridging the Divide: Improving Transitions of Care to Reduce Hospital Readmissions — March 19, 2-3:30pm EDT, **SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions**

Embracing Technology: How Digital Treatment Extenders Add Value to the Services You Provide — March 24, 1-2pm EDT, **National Council**

Continuing Education: Tools to Save Time and Stay Compliant — March 26, 1-2pm EDT, **National Council & Relias Learning**

Mindfulness and Addiction Treatment — March 26, 3-4pm EDT, **NADAAC**

Developing Integrated Care through Brief Interventions — April 1, 2:30-4pm EDT, **National Council**

What Interventions Prevent Suicidal Behavior? — April 2, 2-3pm EDT, **National Council**



Wellness Round-Up

Sponsored by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, **National Nutrition Month** is an educational campaign focused on the importance of making informed food choices, maintaining sound eating habits and increasing physical activity. As part of this year's "**Bite into a Healthy Lifestyle**" theme, join the March 26 **#NutritionChat** on Twitter from 1-2 pm EDT.

And In Other News

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development **announced \$150 million in grants to 24 states and the District of Columbia** to create affordable, accessible, inclusive housing in the community for people with some of the most



significant disabilities. [Read more](#) about this investment.

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation announced the [Next-Generation Accountable Care Organization \(ACO\) Model](#) — an initiative for ACOs experienced in coordinating care for various populations. This program's ACOs will take on greater financial risk than those in current Medicaid ACO initiatives, while also potentially sharing in a greater portion of savings. **Apply by May 1.**

2015 is the year to advance your career and earn your Master of Social Work. The [University of Southern California](#) is currently accepting applications to start earning your MSW online through the MSW@USC. Designed for those who want to make a difference, the MSW@USC features live, online classes and field experiences in students' own communities. **Apply** by June 18 to join the August 2015 class. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. **Bonus: Employees of National Council member agencies get a partial scholarship.**

In our current business environment, the only thing constant is change. Inevitably and irrefutably, the way we work is changing. There are no more 9-5 days and no more cubicle walls to maintain departmental silos. Learn about your HR department's critical role in DATIS' [latest blog](#).

The Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department in Minnesota has premiered a series of Means Restriction Education video shorts intended for families and others to learn how to identify and secure lethal means in the home to prevent self-injury and suicide. [Learn more.](#)

Call for Projects: The summer issue of Behavioral Healthcare magazine is hosting the [2015 Design Showcase contest](#). This special issue will feature projects focused on the design of community/mental health or treatment facilities. If your project receives an Award of Merit, your organization will receive two complimentary registrations to Behavioral Healthcare's national addiction disorders conference and be recognized at a special awards luncheon in August. **Submit your project before March 31.**

A new study finds that the Affordable Care Act may narrow longstanding racial and ethnic disparities in accessing to health care. The study indicates that insurance coverage alone will not eliminate access to care disparities — ensuring that culturally appropriate outreach to help the newly insured connect with the health care system is critical. [Read more.](#)

Have 5 minutes? Watch 30-second videos showing new Relias Learning training best practices in action. The videos show examples of adult learning principles used in actual courses for staff. Courses build on prior experiences, focus on goals and aspirations, teach in a practical manner, make staff feel respected, relate back to specific job roles and create an environment of self-motivation.

CONTACT

For more information, email Communications@TheNationalCouncil.org or call 202.684.7457.